GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:618
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2004
JOINT STUDY GROUP FOR INDIA AND RUSSIA
Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan;Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a joint study group on a possible comprehensive economic cooperation agreement between India and Russia;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the aims and objectives for setting up of such group;

(d) the percentage of trade the Government expect to increase on the recommendations of such group; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to increase trade between the two countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) :Yes sir. During his meeting with visiting Deputy Prime Minister of Russian Federation to India in November 2004, Commerce & Industry Minister has suggested for setting up of a Joint Study Group (JSG) as a first step for beginning discussions on a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement which was welcomed by the Russian Deputy Prime Minister.

(b) to (d) : Details are being worked out.

(e) : To enhance India`s exports to Russia, Government has taken a number of steps which include promotion of dialogue at the highest level, constant review through the Joint Commission/Working Group/Sub-Group mechanism, promoting direct business contacts through exchange of delegations, Joint Business Councils, holding of exhibitions, participation in fairs etc.